

In section 2 of the outstanding final Office Action, the Examiner cites US Patent No. 6,074,312 (Lyon *et al.*) against the novelty of claims 1 to 14, 17, 20 to 29 and 31 to 43. The Examiner noted that applicant had asserted that data was transmitted at each hole (in the golf embodiment), but that such terminology was not used in claim 1. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to claim that data is inputted at each "phase" of the game ("hole" in the golf embodiments of independent claims 17, 30 and 31); which is accomplished at locations associated with each "phase" ("hole" in the hole embodiments) of the game. Such is not taught by Lyon, since Lyon is concerned with the transfer of a total round score to a central handicap maintaining facility which obviously does to relate to the plurality of phases of a single game as claimed.

It will also be noted that the examiner's assertion that figure 9 of Lyon teaches hole location is in error, as that figure provides for the input of the course played, but has nothing to do with an individual hole (or "phase") as claimed.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 17, 30 and 31 are allowable over Lyon at least for these reasons and for the reasons previously stated in the Amendment filed April 5, 2001. Similarly, the claims dependent from these independent claims are also allowable.

In paragraph 3, the Examiner cites US Patent No. 5,283,733 (Colley) against the novelty of claims 1 to 5, 13, 14, 16 to 22, 29 to 38 and 41 to 43. The Examiner contends that Colley discloses a data input means which is carried by each player, so that the claimed central data location means is provided. However, it will be appreciated that it is now specifically claimed that a plurality of input means located at respective locations rather than on the players is claimed.

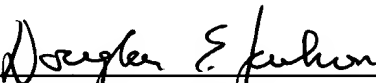
According for the above noted reason and for the reasons previously stated in the Amendment filed April 5, 2001, it is respectively submitted that independent claims 1, 17, 30 and 31 and claims depending therefrom are novel and unobvious over the disclosure of Colley.

The remaining references which were cited but not applied have been reviewed but are not believed to be pertinent to the patentability of the present invention.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 20, 2002

By: 
Douglas E. Jackson
Registration No. 28,518

LARSON & TAYLOR
Transpotomac Plaza
1199 North Fairfax Street, Suite 900
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 739-4900

ATTACHMENT A

Clean Replacement Claims (entire set of pending claims)

Following herewith is a clean copy of the entire set of pending claims.

- SUB
D1
- C1
1. (amended) A sport or game progress data collection system including:
 - an electronic central data collection means for accumulating, storing and manipulating data;
 - a plurality of data input means for entering sport or game progress data remotely, said data input means being distributed about a field of play of said sport or game so that one or more of said data input means are located in association with each of a plurality of phases of said sport or game and each of said data input means being provided with data indicative of its location; and
 - communications means for communicating between said data input means and said data collection means;
 - whereby progress data corresponding to a respective one of said phases of said sport or game can be entered by a person into any of said one or more data input means located in association with said respective phase and wherein progress data so entered is transmitted to said data collection means and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective data collection means.
 2. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said system is to transmit further data from said data collection means to one or more of said data input means.
 3. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes identification means for tagging any data entered into said data input means with a data tag.
 4. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data collection means includes memory means for storing said data associated with said tag.

5. A data collection system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said tag indicates an identity of a person entering said data.

6. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes card reading means for reading a data card.

7. A data collection system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said card stores said data tag.

8. (amended) A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes card writing means, for storing data onto a data card, whereby said stored data may be data transmitted from said data collection means.

9. A data collection system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said card writing means comprises a smart card writing means.

10. A data collection system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said card reading means comprises a smart card reading means.

11. A data collection system as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of said data input means is operable to associate any data entered into said data input means with a reference read by said smart card reading means from a smart card.

12. A data collection system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said reference corresponds to the identity of a person entering said data and in possession of said smart card.

13. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data comprises golf score data.

14. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input

means includes a data entry terminal including a keyboard or keypad and visual display unit.

15. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes a proximity sensing means to detect when a user approaches one of said data input means, so that portions of said system can automatically power up only when required by said user and to identify the location of said user or of said data input means.

16. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said communication means includes a wireless communication means.

17. (amended) A golf scoring system including:

a central score collection computer for accumulating, storing and manipulating golf scores;

a plurality of score input terminals for entering golf score data remotely, said terminals being distributed about a golf course so that one or more of said terminals are located in association with each hole of said course and each of said terminals is provided with data indicative of its location; and

communications means for communicating between said terminals and said central computer;

whereby golf score data corresponding to a respective one of said holes can be entered into any of said one or more terminals located in association with said respective hole and wherein said golf score data so entered and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective terminal are transmitted to said central computer.

18. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said communications means includes radio communication means so that said terminals and said central computer can communicate wirelessly.

19. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said communication means is a two way communication means so that said central computer can transit data including cumulative scores and/or handicaps to said terminals.

20. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said terminals includes identification means for tagging each of said scores entered into said terminals with a corresponding data identity tag.

21. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 20, wherein said central computer is operable to store said data identity tags associated with said scores.

22. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 20, wherein each of said tags indicates an identity of a person entering the corresponding of said scores.

23. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said terminals includes a smart card reader, for reading data from a smart card.

24. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said terminals includes a smart card writer, for storing data onto a smart card.

25. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said stored data is data transmitted from said central computer, such as cumulative core data or handicap data.

26. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said system includes said smart card.

27. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of said terminals is operable to associate any data entered into said terminal with a reference read by said smart card reader from said smart card.

28. (amended) A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 27, wherein said reference

corresponds to the identity of a person entering said score and in possession of said smart card.

29. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said central computer is connected to a computer network so that data stored on said central computer can be accessed remotely and/or said central computer can access golf data stored remotely.

30. (amended) A golf scoring system including:

a golf course with a club house;

a central score collection computer for accumulating, storing and manipulating golf scores, located in said club house;

a plurality of score input terminals for entering golf score data remotely and for distribution about said golf course so that one or more of said terminals are located in association with each hole of said course and each of said terminals is provided with data indicative of its location; and

wireless communications means for communicating between said terminals and said central computer;

whereby golf score data corresponding to a respective one of said holes can be entered into any of said one or more terminals located in association with said respective hole and wherein said golf score data so entered and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective terminal are transmitted to said central computer.

31. (amended) A method for golf scoring including the steps of:

entering golf score data corresponding to a respective hole of a golf course remotely into a score input terminal located in association with said respective hole;

transmitting said golf score data and data indicative of the location of said respective terminal from said terminal to a central score collection computer for accumulating, storing and manipulating golf scores; and

storing said golf score data on said central computer.

32. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including calculating a cumulative score by means of said central computer.

33. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 32, including transmitting said cumulative score from said central computer to said input terminal.

34. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including calculating handicap data by means of said central computer.

35. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 34, including transmitting said handicap data from said central computer to said terminal.

36. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including distributing a plurality of said input terminals on a golf course.

37. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 36, including progressively entering said score after each hole of said golf course.

38. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including entering identification data into said input terminal associated with said score and storing said score and data calculated therefrom identified by means of said identification data.

39. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 38, wherein said entering identification data includes reading said identification data from a smart card.

40. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 39, including storing said score on said smart card.

41. A system as claimed in claim 1, including means for displaying said progress data and the location of said respective data input means.

CI
cancel
42. A system as claimed in claim 17, including means for displaying said golf scores and the location of said respective terminal.

43. A method as claimed in claim 31, including displaying said golf scores and the location of said respective terminal.

ATTACHMENT B

Marked Up Replacement Claims

Following herewith is a marked up copy of each rewritten claim together with all other pending claims.

1. (amended) A sport or game progress data collection system including:
 - an electronic central data collection means for accumulating, storing and manipulating data;
 - a plurality of data input means for entering sport or game progress data remotely, said data input means being distributed about a field of play of said sport or game so that one or more of said data input means are located in association with each of a plurality of phases of said sport or game and each of said data input means being provided with data indicative of its location; and
 - communications means for communicating between said data input means and said data collection means;
 - whereby progress data corresponding to a respective one of said phases of said sport or game can ~~may-be~~ entered by a person into any of said one or more data input means located in association with said respective phase and wherein progress data so entered is transmitted to said data collection means and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective data collection means.
2. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said system is to transmit further data from said data collection means to one or more of said data input means.
3. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes identification means for tagging any data entered into said data input means with a data tag.
4. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data collection means includes memory means for storing said data associated with said tag.

5. A data collection system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said tag indicates an identity of a person entering said data.

6. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes card reading means for reading a data card.

7. A data collection system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said card stores said data tag.

8. (amended) A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes card writing means, for storing data onto a data card, whereby said stored data may be data transmitted from said data collection means.

9. A data collection system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said card writing means comprises a smart card writing means.

10. A data collection system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said card reading means comprises a smart card reading means.

11. A data collection system as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of said data input means is operable to associate any data entered into said data input means with a reference read by said smart card reading means from a smart card.

12. A data collection system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said reference corresponds to the identity of a person entering said data and in possession of said smart card.

13. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said data comprises golf score data.

14. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input

means includes a data entry terminal including a keyboard or keypad and visual display unit.

15. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said data input means includes a proximity sensing means to detect when a user approaches one of said data input means, so that portions of said system can automatically power up only when required by said user and to identify the location of said user or of said data input means.

16. A data collection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said communication means includes a wireless communication means.

17. (amended) A golf scoring system including:

a central score collection computer for accumulating, storing and manipulating golf scores;

a plurality of score input terminals for entering golf score data remotely, said terminals being distributed about a golf course so that one or more of said terminals are located in association with each hole of said course and each of said terminals is being provided with data indicative of its location; and

communications means for communicating between said terminals and said central computer, ~~whereby said terminals are distributed around a golf course so that players may enter golf scores into said terminals, and said terminals may transmit said scores and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective terminal to said central computer, and said central computer is operable to store said scores and calculate cumulative scores and handicaps;~~

whereby golf score data corresponding to a respective one of said holes can be entered into any of said one or more terminals located in association with said respective hole and wherein said golf score data so entered and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective terminal are transmitted to said central computer.

18. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said communications means includes radio communication means so that said terminals and said central computer can communicate wirelessly.

19. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said communication means is a two way communication means so that said central computer can transit data including cumulative scores and/or handicaps to said terminals.

20. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said terminals includes identification means for tagging each of said scores entered into said terminals with a corresponding data identity tag.

21. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 20, wherein said central computer is operable to store said data identity tags associated with said scores.

22. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 20, wherein each of said tags indicates an identity of a person entering the corresponding of said scores.

23. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said terminals includes a smart card reader, for reading data from a smart card.

24. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein each of said terminals includes a smart card writer, for storing data onto a smart card.

25. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said stored data is data transmitted from said central computer, such as cumulative core data or handicap data.

26. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 24, wherein said system includes said smart card.

27. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of said terminals is

operable to associate any data entered into said terminal with a reference read by said smart card reader from said smart card.

28. (amended) A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 27, wherein said reference corresponds to the identity of a person entering said a score and in possession of said smart card.

29. A golf scoring system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said central computer is connected to a computer network so that data stored on said central computer can be accessed remotely and/or said central computer can access golf data stored remotely.

30. (amended) A golf scoring system including:

a golf course with a club house;

a central score collection computer for accumulating, storing and manipulating golf scores, located in said club house;

a plurality of score input terminals for entering golf score data remotely and for distribution about around said golf course so that one or more of said terminals are located in association with each hole of said course and each of said terminals is provided with data indicative of its location for entering golf scores remotely; and

wireless communications means for communicating between said terminals and said central computer, ~~whereby golf players may enter their scores progressively into said terminals and said terminals can transmit said scores and data indicative of the location of said respective terminal to said central computer, and said central computer is operable to store said scores and calculate cumulative scores and handicaps;~~

whereby golf score data corresponding to a respective one of said holes can be entered into any of said one or more terminals located in association with said respective hole and wherein said golf score data so entered and said data indicative of said respective location of said respective terminal are transmitted to said central computer.

31. (amended) A method for golf scoring including the steps of:

entering golf a-score data corresponding to a respective hole of a golf course remotely into a score input terminal located in association with said respective hole;

transmitting said golf score data and data indicative of the location of said respective terminal from said terminal to a central score collection computer for accumulating, storing and manipulating golf scores; and

storing said golf score data on said central computer.

32. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including calculating a cumulative score by means of said central computer.

33. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 32, including transmitting said cumulative score from said central computer to said input terminal.

34. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including calculating handicap data by means of said central computer.

35. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 34, including transmitting said handicap data from said central computer to said terminal.

36. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including distributing a plurality of said input terminals on a golf course.

37. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 36, including progressively entering said score after each hole of said golf course.

38. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 31, including entering identification data into said input terminal associated with said score and storing said score and data calculated therefrom identified by means of said identification data.

39. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 38, wherein said entering identification data includes reading said identification data from a smart card.

40. A method for golf scoring as claimed in claim 39, including storing said score on said smart card.

41. A system as claimed in claim 1, including means for displaying said progress data and the location of said respective data input means.

42. A system as claimed in claim 17, including means for displaying said golf scores and the location of said respective terminal.

43. A method as claimed in claim 31, including displaying said golf scores and the location of said respective terminal.